



# Inquiry into Liquor Amendment Bill 2025

## Answer to question taken on notice

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Asked by: Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings, MLA

Addressed to: Ms Brooke McKail, Deputy CEO Domestic Violence Crisis Service

In relation to: Government strategies to manage the link between alcohol and domestic violence

Hearing: 5 December 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 22-23

Transcript provided: 11 December 2025

Answer Due: 18 December 2025

Ms Brooke McKail, DVCS took on notice the following question(s):

**MR WERNER-GIBBINGS:** Yes, okay. I...(indistinct)...[10.24.26] and this is a similar question that I asked FARE. Thoughts on whether or not—I am presuming, whether the liquor licensing regime could be more responsive to the relationship between alcohol and domestic, family and sexual violence? And if so, how?

**Ms McKail:** Look, I am going to be honest here that my knowledge of the liquor licensing regime is not extensive.

**MR WERNER-GIBBINGS:** Appreciate your honesty. Better that—or then if not, the other strategies that the government could be considering. I mean, so this is not necessarily the—because the previous question I asked was about the legal steps, but other strategies that the ACT government could be considering, or where the assembly could be thinking about that would help.

**Ms McKail:** I think always when—you know, when things like licensing and, you know—and even, I think it was the question you asked, Mr Rattenbury, about, you know, industry and alcohol providers kind of regulating themselves and making determinations. I think there are always going to be gaps when regulation is industry led because there are competing priorities that they are balancing.

So I—you know, I think government does have a role in making some of those determinations around, I guess, appropriate—no, I have lost my train of thought, I am sorry. Let me sit on that one for a minute.

**MR WERNER-GIBBINGS:** Take your train of thought on notice.

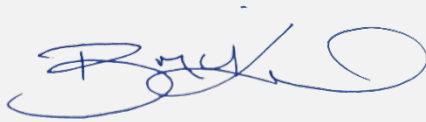
**Ms McKail:** Take my train of thought on notice. Maybe you have got some more informed comments.

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DVCS: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

As a frontline Domestic Violence service, DVCS has limited expertise in liquor licensing reform. We encourage the committee to review measures and recommendations from other jurisdictions, including around density of liquor outlets, and ensuring licensing conditions are regularly reviewed to reduce the likelihood of harm.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brooke McKail', with a large circular flourish at the end.

Signature:

Date: 19/1/2026

By Brooke McKail, Deputy CEO, Domestic Violence Crisis Service